

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Methods for broadband multimedia telecommunication include broadcasting a large selection of video streams via fiber optic to local switches which are coupled to customers by POTS lines and providing video streams, high QOS voice and VDSL data service from the local switch to customer premises. Signals from customer premises equipment communicate to the local switch to select up to four simultaneous video streams (out of hundreds available). According to the presently preferred embodiment, video, data, and digital voice service are provided via ATM cells to the local switch where they are multiplexed with lifeline POTS service and transmitted to the customer premises via ATM cells. Multicast video streams are duplicated at the point in the switch closest to the customer.